

# Contents.

Preface

~~A Liberal Education Theory.~~

Introduction.

<sup>I</sup>  
The Basis of National Character

- i On Knowledge
- ii Letters, Knowledge and Virtue
- iii Knowledge, Reason & Rebellion
- iv New & Old Conceptions of Knowledge
- v Education & the Future of Life
- vi Knowledge in Literary Form
- vii The Montessori System

<sup>II</sup>  
A Theory of Education - Theory

- i Concerning Children as Persons
- ii City Education
- iii Three Educational Ideals.
- iv The Principles Working of the Froebelian School.
- v Two Ideals & a Danger
- vi A Liberal Education
- vii The Parents' Union School at Work.  
(Messy & the Children of the P. U. S.)

viii The Reading Habit & a wide Curriculum.

ix The Equipment of Boys & Girls: - Opinions & Principles

x Rural Instruction, Direct & Indirect.

xi The Effect of Bible Knowledge on a Child

xii Education v. Vocation (traj de zile)

~~xix~~ xiii What does the law mean to us?

~~xix~~ xiv The Law & the Children

xv The Chief End of Education.

xvi Women must keep.

/// A Liberal Education in Practice



which follow  
 The chapters appearing under the  
 heading, "The Basis of National Strength"  
 have appeared <sup>as a series of letters</sup> in the Educational Supplement  
 of The Times, & are their happy concern  
 of the Editor, as well as the general title, to the  
 Editor.

The chapters under the heading of  
 "A liberal education in theory" have  
 appeared from time to time in the  
Parents' Review & most of them  
 have been read at an annual conference  
 of the Parents' Union.

The matter under the heading of  
 "A liberal education in practice"  
 is contributed by children in the Parents'  
 Union School, & consists of a complete  
 set of answers sent in by one child  
 in each class of the school, and then a few  
 other questions from other sources, & of a  
 few plans, designed to help the children  
 to consider the average standard of work.



# CONTENTS

## PREFACE

## INTRODUCTION

*Knowledge*

### <sup>I</sup>The Basis of National Strength

- i On Knowledge
- ii Letters, Knowledge and Virtue
- iii Knowledge, Reason & Rebellion
- iv New & Old Conceptions of Knowledge
- v Education & Fulness of Life
- vi Knowledge in Literary Form
- vii <sup>Some aspects of</sup> The Montessori System

## II

### A Liberal Education in Theory

- i Concerning children as Persons
- ii Self-education
- iii Three Educational Idylls
- iv The Principles & Working of the Parents' Union School
- v Two Ideals & a Danger
- vi A Liberal Education
- vii The Parents' Union School at Work
- (Message to the Children of the P.U.S.)
- viii The Reading Habit & a Wide Curriculum
- ix The Equipment of Boys & Girls:-Opinions & Principles
- x Moral Enstruction, Direct & Indirect

xi The Effect of Bible Knowledge on a Child

xii Education v. Vocation (Trop de Zèle)

xiii What does the war mean to us?

xiv The War & the Children

xv The Chief End of Education

xvi Women must Weep

III

A Liberal Education in Practice

i Immature Professors of a class in a County Council School

Ch. H.

Appendix

"UNDINE"

A LIBERAL EDUCATION.

"All knowledge for all men".

—Comenius---

"Books, we know,  
Are a substantial world, both pure & good,  
Round which, with tendrils strong as flesh & blood,  
Our pastime & our happiness will grow." *The Prelude*



Preface

PREFACE.

It would seem a far cry from "Undine" to "a liberal education", but there is a point of contact between the two; as the <sup>4</sup> soul of a sea-maiden <sup>0</sup> ~~awake~~ <sup>1</sup> ~~within her~~ <sup>2</sup> at the touch of love, so I have to tell of the awakening of a 'general soul' at the touch of knowledge. Two years ago the 'soul' of a class of forty children in a village <sup>school</sup> ~~awoke~~ simultaneously at this magic touch & has remained awake. We know that religion can awaken souls, that love makes a new man, that the call of a vocation may do it, & in the ages of the Renaissance men's souls, the general soul, ~~awoke to knowledge, but~~ <sup>has appealed & been reached by the modern soul.</sup> notwithstanding the pleasantness attending lessons & marks in all our schools, I believe the ardour for knowledge in the children of this mining village is a phenomenon that indicates new possibilities. It may be that the souls of all children are waiting for the call of knowledge to awaken them to delightful living. This is how Mrs Petrie Steinthal who has been the happy instigator of the movement writes, - "Think of the meaning of this in the lives of the ~~children~~ <sup>disciplined</sup> lives, & no lawless strikes, justice, & an end to class warfare, developed intellects & no market for trashy & corrupt literature. We shall, or rather they, will, live in a redeemed world." This was written in a moment of enthusiasm on hearing that the County Council of the West Riding had



accepted a certain scheme of work for this pioneer school, enthusiasm sees the fields already white to harvest, but indeed the event is likely to justify high expectations.

No doubt children are very well-taught & very happy in their lessons as things are, & this was especially true of the school in question; yet both teachers & children find an immeasurable difference between the casual interest aroused by marks, pleasing lessons & other school devices & the sort of steady avidity for knowledge that comes with the awakened soul. The children have converted the <sup>School</sup> Inspectors; "and the English!" said one of these in astonishment as he listened to their long, graphic, dramatic relations of what they had heard. The ~~Education Committee of the County Council~~ have watched the experiment with singular liberality & care & have afforded financial help.

The possibility of trying this important experiment is due as I have said to Mrs Petrie Steinthal who has for many years held a voluntary art class for the School-mistresses. In this way ~~she~~ <sup>she</sup> has been able to secure the interest of a number of teachers, in a scheme in which she has had ardent faith. Mrs Steinthal was my able and earnest co-ajutor some thirty years ago in the founding of the Parents' National Educational Union, a Society which has afforded scope for working out on a large scale the experiment described in this volume; & through its instrumentality We have been able to leaven the country pretty freely with

*practical*  
 educational thought & purpose on the lines of Dean Colet's  
 prayer for St. Paul's School, - "Pray for the children to  
 prosper in good life & good literature."

*including many fellow workers*  
 In the course of a quarter of a century we  
 have had thousands of children in our schools (home &  
 other) *working on the lines of, as* practically all of them growing up with such principles  
 & pursuits as should make for happy & useful living.

*on the lines of*

May I here say a word of gratitude to the large  
 company of fellow workers who have made this work possible,  
 & more especially to the Hon. Org. Sec. of the Society,  
 the Hon. Mrs Franklin who for more than a score of years  
 has been the "very pulse of the machine" & has given  
 cordial & intelligent sympathy, *I understand both to the principle & practice of* organising power combined  
 with unstinted & well-directed effort to every branch of  
 the work, & to Miss Parish, our general Secretary (herself  
 an old student) the Executive Committee & the Committees  
 of the various branches of the Society; especially I should  
 like to thank *the* our Presidents, the Marquis & Marchioness of  
 Aberdeen; indeed Lady Aberdeen's question as to how the  
 counsels of perfection contained in Home Education could  
 be effected, led indirectly to the establishment of the  
 House of Education & the Parents' Union School; the former  
 students of this College & a very large number of teachers  
 & parents; in fact a large company of zealous co-workers who

*As well as  
 Miss F. L. Parish  
 our  
 Secretary  
 General etc.*



carry out the practical work claim my warm gratitude.

I should like, too, to offer my affectionate & grateful acknowledgments to Miss F.C.A. Williams who as Vice-Principal of the House of Education endues the students with those Principles upon which the movement depends; & to Miss E. Kitching who in her office of Secretary has given most intelligent, <sup>heart</sup>able & generous co-operation in all the work of the Parents' Union School; indeed all the staff of the College are able co-adjutors. Bishop & Mrs ~~Boyd~~ & (the late) Mrs Boyd Carpenter, too, have given steady help to the Union, as has a former Chief Inspector, the Rev C.H. Perez, for some years Examiner to the College; among these no longer with us I should like to mention what we owe to the <sup>delightful</sup> incomparable personality, affectionate interest & always ready help of Mrs Dallas Yorke, & to the enthusiasm, educational insight & cordial friendship of Mr T.G. Rooper H.M.I.. But indeed I must apologise to the general reader for including this long list of names in a book which, seeing that I am an old woman, probably offers my last opportunity for making grateful acknowledgements for much sympathy & valuable co-operation.

(continue)  
I am glad of this opportunity to make <sup>do it</sup> these acknowledgments before describing some results of a movement which depends upon many co-workers.

Perhaps an apology is due <sup>from me</sup> ~~from me~~ for following an unusual course in publishing specimens of the examination work of a score or two of children <sup>for the term ending Xmas 1915</sup> ~~(for the term ending Xmas 1915)~~ but



it is not possible in any other way to exhibit the results of the theory & practice I ~~am~~ <sup>am</sup> advocating. Perhaps 'education' would be the ~~gainer~~ <sup>in value</sup>, if it were not the general custom to conduct school work in camera; as it is, teachers & parents are, in the dark, with only such knowledge of what is being done, as is to be obtained from the lists published by examining bodies.

I should like to add that we have no "axe to grind"; the public good is our sole object, & I shall describe in a concluding note to this volume how easily what seem to be exclusive methods may be made available in <sup>any</sup> all schools.

The chapters which follow under the heading, "The Basis of ~~Strong~~ National Strength" have appeared as a series of letters in the Educational Supplement of ~~The Times~~, & owe the happily conceived ~~titles~~ <sup>titles</sup> as well as the general title to the Editor. The chapters under the heading, of "A liberal education in theory" have appeared from time to time in the Parents' Review & most of them have been read at annual conferences of the Parents' Union.

The matter under the heading of "A liberal education in practice" is contributed by children in the Parents' Union School, & consist of (a), a complete set of answers sent in by one child in ~~each~~ <sup>or more</sup> each class of the school; & (b), a few stray answers from the other members of <sup>the</sup> ~~a given~~ class,



designed to ~~help~~ help the reader to form some idea of the  
average standard of work. The place of honors is given  
to the examination <sup>papers</sup> of the children in the County  
Council School to which I have referred, the pioneer  
School among several in the West Riding,



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"UNDINE"

A LIBERAL EDUCATION

"All knowledge for all men"

Comenius



PREFACE.

It would seem a far cry from "Undine" to "a liberal education", but there is a point of contact between the two, as the soul of a sea-maiden awoke within her at the touch of love, so I have to tell of the awakening of a 'general soul' at the touch of knowledge. Two years ago the 'soul' of a class of forty children in a village school awoke, simultaneously at ~~at~~ this magic touch & has remained awake,

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*For many years*  
Mrs Steintal was my able and earnest co-adjutor some thirty years ago in the founding of the Parents' National Educational Union, a Society which has afforded scope for working out on a large scale the experiment described in this volume. <sup>through its instrumentality</sup> We have been able to leaven the country pretty freely with educational thought & purpose on the lines of



Dean Colet's prayer for every scholar of St Paul's School, -  
"Pray for the children to prosper in good life & good  
literature."

In the course of a quarter of a century ~~many thousands~~  
~~of children~~ we have had many many thousand children  
in our schools((home & other), practically all of them growing  
up with such principles & pursuits as ~~everybody~~ should  
make for happy & useful living.

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company of fellow workers who have made this work possible, &  
especially to the Hon. Org. Sec. of the Society, The Hon. Mrs  
Franklin, who for a quarter of a century has given cordial  
& intelligent sympathy, organising power & unstinted efforts  
to every branch of the work; in fact, a large company of  
zealous co-workers who carry out the practical work claim  
my warm gratitude.

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Bishop & Mrs Boyd Carpenter, too, have given steady help to the Union as has the late Chief Inspector, the Rev C.H. Perez, ~~Examiner~~ <sup>a former</sup> Examiner to the College, and among those no longer with us I should like to mention what we owe to the incomparable personality, & affectionate interest & ready help of Mrs Dallas Yorke, & to the enthusiasm & cordial friendship of Mr T.G. Rooper H.M.I. But indeed I am able to mention only a few of our friends & I feel that I must

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See P. 5

ilp Remett

Undine

A Liberal Education

"All knowledge for all men"  
Emerson















A society which he afforded scope for  
 working out on a large scale. The  
 educational experiment described  
 in this volume. As far as I know  
 J. H. Stoddard's Symp. Notes were of  
 democratic & it troubled him that his  
 meetings were more attractive to  
 "rebels & purrs" than to working parents.  
 who were shy of fashionably meetings  
 in a lecture room. He was more  
 successful in reaching the ~~working~~ <sup>temp</sup> ~~parents~~  
 with the life but not doubt that  
 Stoddard has found the way to him  
 what we call "Rural" principles and  
 how to <sup>high</sup> ~~bring~~ <sup>the people</sup> ~~bring~~ <sup>parents</sup> by intro. during  
~~the~~ <sup>they</sup> into Council Schools. This is  
 a great ~~discovery~~ <sup>discovery</sup> from the past  
 experience & important <sup>face departure</sup> ~~face departure~~  
 has ~~able to afford~~ <sup>been able to afford</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup>  
 have been able to leave the County  
 pretty freely with educational thought  
 everywhere in the line of J. H. Stoddard's



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to Miss S. C. Parish, our general secretary, the  
Executive Committee & the Committees of the  
various branches of the Society; especially, I should  
like to thank our President, Mr. G. & M. G. G.  
indeed, Lady Aberdeen's presentation as to how the  
various commands of perfection are claimed in  
H. - G. - could be expected, and directly  
to the establishment of the H. O. G. & the P. D. S.  
The former and both of Miss G. G. & the  
large number of teachers & parents,







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Insert - her "Bp. & W. B.C.

down to "But - ended -

"







